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between the Greeks of the great days and modern Americans. But the subjects are not of such moment; rather what one would note is the life, the wealth, the spirit with which Professor Gildersleeve endows everything he touches. The essays are thickly sown with wit and wisdom, ripe learning and lenient vision. A few observations culled at random should be enough to assure each reader that he must own the volume.

"It is better to be a doorkeeper in the house of philology than to dwell in the tents of the rhetorician."

"Some men can pass from the morning newspaper or the midnight novel straight to the lecture on Greek literature or to the investigation of grammatical phenomena and feel that life is one; others have to put on mental bands and gowns in order to present the gospel of Hellenism, as Buffon is said to have put on court dress before he paid his respects to Nature; others regard a Greek joke as a sacred thing not likely to be laughed at."

"Creon tells his son Hæmon that Antigone is 'a frigid hugging-piece,' and however frigid my hugging-piece (the Greek language) may seem to others, I have pursued it as a phantom of delight, now through the crowds of the agora, now round the steps of the bema, now over the meadows of the Muses where Aristophanes disports himself, now over battle-fields illuminated by stark figures of the blue and gray."

English reviewers are reproaching American essayists with taking themselves too seriously. The same reproach might be brought against our scholars. They are so serious that they are positively dry. Dr. Jebb, Dr. Mahaffy, Mr. Tyrrell, can write of Greek life and letters with profound learning and yet be interesting. One has a sense that they have had time to assimilate what they have learned. Why must our college professors produce books that read like so much newly gathered learning carefully catalogued? "This book,"\* says the author, "is a contribution to the study of Greek education during imperial times." For the real spirit of Greek education we should still refer the reader to Thomas Davidson's fascinating volume. The chapters on "Public Displays" and "Student Days" are most interesting and least overburdened by a mere catalogue of facts.

<sup>\*&</sup>quot;The Universities of Ancient Greece." By John M. Walden. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1909.

These delightful and learned essays\* have but one thread of continuity—all deal with Greek literature. The five essays spread over so wide ground as Pindar, Sophocles, the recently discovered Papyri (the Constitution of Athens), Bachalydes and Plutarch. Of these the least technical and most appealing to the general reader is the delightfully interesting essay on Sophocles. Like Professor Gildersleeve, Mr. Tyrrell delights us by scraps of wit on his most profound pages, as when in his denunciation of the lack of taste and imagination in German scholarship he suggests as an adjunct to the Decalogue: "Thou shalt not covet the German's knife, nor his readings, nor his metres, nor his sense, nor his taste, nor anything that is his."

Some of the discussion of readings and interpretations is a matter for scholars only, but the gist of the book is thoroughly enjoyable reading and reliable scholarship. It is devoutly to be desired that this author should collect into one volume his essays on English poetry and give us a volume as learned and delightful as this in a more familiar field.

<sup>\*&</sup>quot; Essays on Greek Literature." By Robert Yelverton Tyrrell. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1909.